

# JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردين تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانكليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

AMMAN, FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 1977 — JAMADI AL AWAL 4, 1397

## Venezuelan president in Qatar

DOHA, Qatar, April 21 (R). — Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez opened talks with the Emir of Qatar here today at the start of a two-week tour of five Middle East countries which he hopes will resolve a price conflict between oil producers. Senor Pérez, on his first trip to the Middle East, started his talks with the Qatar ruler, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, six hours after flying to this small Gulf state. The president may play a mediatory role in trying to settle the price conflict between Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the other 11 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Senor Pérez was accompanied by his foreign minister, mines and energy minister, basic industries minister and top aides.

## King Hussein will meet Waldheim in New York

UNITED NATIONS, April 21 (R). — His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan, who is visiting the United States next week, will confer with U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim at U.N. headquarters on April 28, a U.N. spokesman said today. Mr. Waldheim will also give a lunch in the King's honour.

## Carter's proposals on energy are well received in Europe, Middle East

PARIS, April 21 (R). — President Carter's plan to cut back on oil and natural gas consumption was praised in Western capitals today for its potential benefits for the rest of the world. His proposals were also welcomed by some Middle East leaders as vindication of their own policies to discourage the squandering of oil. Although the long-term effects of the plan were still being studied, a proposed cut in U.S. oil imports was expected to come up in early discussions between OPEC countries. But while the programme would affect some oil exporters, officials also saw a possibility that the U.S. could become a market for their natural gas.

Government said that if the U.S. were able to carry through the programme, "then the outlook for the rest of the world will be brighter." A statement from the British Energy Department said: "The fact that the president of the world's richest nation is taking conservation so seriously will enhance the importance of energy saving and development programmes in other countries." Car makers were cautious in assessing the effects on their sales of the proposed heavier petrol taxes. Some experts thought demand would rise for imported foreign cars using less petrol. But others believed U.S. carmakers would quickly adjust to their own models.

## Congress may reject Carter's plan — but OPEC wishes him success — p. 4

The most immediate effect of President Carter's programme, particularly for West Europe, was his proposed increase in uranium enrichment capacity in other countries. Herr Guido Brunner, the European Common Market commissioner in charge of energy, reported in Brussels that he expected the U.S. to resume uranium enrichment within six weeks. The U.S. had delayed shipment of the nuclear fuel — a vital part of Europe's advanced nuclear reactors, — while administration reviewed its energy policy in general and nuclear proliferation in particular.

## Rival Palestinian factions reportedly clash in Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon, April 21 (Agencies). — Rival Palestinian factions clashed for the second day in Lebanon today, cutting the coastal highway between the ports of Tyre and Sidon. Pro-Syrian and pro-Iraqi wings of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) fought with heavy machine-guns and anti-tank rockets for about 90 minutes, according to soldiers controlling traffic on the road. They said fighters from other commando groups intervened to stop the fighting. Last night Syrian-sponsored Saiga commandos and the pro-



FIRE UNCHECKED -- Fire runs unchecked through carriages of local train in Karachi Wednesday after it was fired by strikers. Two strikers were killed when the train ran into them as they tried to halt all trains on the Landhi-Karachi section of the government's railroad system. (AP wirephoto).

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In Paris, the International Energy Agency, grouping the major non-communist industrial countries, said the programme was well balanced and an example for other oil-consuming nations. "President Carter has recognized that oil is not going to be an energy source for ever and is trying to do something about it," a spokesman said. The French newspaper Le Monde said the size of U.S. oil imports has weighed heavily on the market and a reduction in American demand would mean reducing tensions on prices. In Vienna, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was studying President Carter's proposals before making any comment. But the programme was expected to figure prominently in talks which Venezuelan President Andrés Pérez will have during his current two-week tour of five Middle East countries.

Most of Venezuela's oil exports go to the United States while Saudi Arabia also sells much of its production there. Officials at various capitals of the Gulf said any measure which put an end to wasteful use of oil in the U.S. was welcome. They saw proposals raising the cost of domestically-produced oil in the U.S. to that of oil imported from OPEC countries as justification of OPEC's own price policies. "If we refuse to increase our production to meet their (the consuming countries) demand we are accused of economic sabotage," one Kuwait official said today. "If we increase our prices, we are described as an unwieldy cartel holding the world to ransom," he added. "We are glad the U.S. appears at long last to be moving seriously to support our efforts to reduce oil demand and keep prices high to encourage the development of alternatives to oil as an energy source," the official said. Oil officials were also studying Mr. Carter's proposal to raise the price of new domestic natural gas in interstate commerce. They thought it might open the way to the export of natural gas from the Gulf to the U.S. market. Exports have been inhibited by U.S. gas prices being lower than those on the world market. Kuwaiti officials said they would be willing to sell gas to the U.S. from a new one billion dollar gas liquefaction plant if the situation changed.

Iraqi wing of the General Command clashed near a Palestinian camp in Beirut, but the fighting lasted only about 15 minutes. There was no word on casualties in today's fighting. Pro-Syrian and pro-Iraqi commandos have fought several times this year. The worst clash was in the market town of Nabatieh. At least three people were killed in another clash in Nabatieh last week. The road between Tyre and Sidon reopened in the afternoon but shooting broke out again at sunset and traffic was held up once more. In a separate development from Kuwait, a team from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), led by President Saeb Jaraoui, left today for Beirut to study old projects for the reconstruction of Lebanon. Fund sources said the team would be looking into such vital utilities as the port of Beirut and power supply system, still disrupted four months after the ceasefire which brought the Lebanese civil war to a virtual standstill. Dr. Jaraoui, a former Lebanese economy minister, and his team will later visit Washington for talks with the World Bank, the sources added. In another development, however, a well informed source said that certain Palestinian travelers have been barred from entering Lebanon recently. This was done under regulations adopted last February by general security officials, the source said. The regulations require Palestinians living outside Lebanon, except those holding Jordanian passports, to have "serious" reasons for going to Lebanon. They also must request permission for the trips from Lebanese embassies, the date they will leave Lebanon again must be specified in their passports.

## West Bank protest marks Israel's 29th anniversary

TEL AVIV, April 21 (R). — Demonstrators staged protests against a government decision announced yesterday to establish a Jewish settlement at Mas'ha, in the occupied West Bank just across the 1967 border opposite Petah Tikva near Tel Aviv. They also shouted slogans against Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the extremist Jewish Defence League, who tried to call on the mayor of Nablus earlier in the week. School authorities later persuaded the pupils to return to their classrooms, teachers said. Despite a warning by the military commander of the region to stay away from Nablus, Rabbi Kahane today tried again to enter the town with an armed escort of his followers. He was stopped by border policemen and forced to turn back after arguing with them. At least eight people, including both Jews and Arabs were drowned and others were reported missing when a small excursion boat capsized off the ancient port of Acre, police said. Israelis celebrating the anniversary filled synagogues and holidaymakers packed parks and beaches while Arabs demonstrated for an end to the occupation. In West Jerusalem, President Ebrahim Katzir received the congratulations of the diplomatic corps at a reception at his residence.

In Bethlehem, student demonstrators shouted slogans against a government decision announced yesterday to establish a Jewish settlement at Mas'ha, in the occupied West Bank just across the 1967 border opposite Petah Tikva near Tel Aviv. They also shouted slogans against Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the extremist Jewish Defence League, who tried to call on the mayor of Nablus earlier in the week. School authorities later persuaded the pupils to return to their classrooms, teachers said. Despite a warning by the military commander of the region to stay away from Nablus, Rabbi Kahane today tried again to enter the town with an armed escort of his followers. He was stopped by border policemen and forced to turn back after arguing with them. At least eight people, including both Jews and Arabs were drowned and others were reported missing when a small excursion boat capsized off the ancient port of Acre, police said. Israelis celebrating the anniversary filled synagogues and holidaymakers packed parks and beaches while Arabs demonstrated for an end to the occupation. In West Jerusalem, President Ebrahim Katzir received the congratulations of the diplomatic corps at a reception at his residence.

## Bhutto declares martial law in 3 major cities

ISLAMABAD, April 21 (Agencies). — Martial law has been declared in three of Pakistan's largest cities, Karachi, Lahore and Hyderabad, Rado Pakistan announced today. This decision puts about eight million people under the control of a military administration. Martial law has only been invoked twice in the history of Pakistan. In 1958, it was imposed for several years throughout the country when Mar. Ayub Khan seized power after a coup d'état. Several years ago martial law was declared in Lahore following religious riots. Karachi and Hyderabad had already been clamped under a round-the-clock curfew today in an effort to check continuing political violence. Anti-government agitation began six weeks ago after the nine-party opposition group, the Pakistan National Alliance (PNA), accused Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of rigging general elections to keep his own party in power. About 200 people have died in the violence since then. The imposition of martial law comes ahead of an opposition call for a nation-wide strike and demonstrations tomorrow to demand the resignation of Mr. Bhutto. Observers said the demonstrations could be a flashpoint for further violence and bloodshed. Reliable sources said two people were shot dead by troops today for breaking the curfew in Hyderabad and another was killed in Karachi. The curfew was imposed in Karachi at dawn today after about 19 people died in clashes yesterday between opponents and supporters of Mr. Bhutto. Hyderabad, 160 kms north of Karachi, was placed under cur-

few this afternoon after renewed violence in which several people were injured. Lahore, capital of Punjab province, was reported quiet today but the city has been the scene of vicious clashes in the past two weeks. In Hyderabad, reliable sources reported that retired Maj. Gen. A.A.K. Niazi, a leader of the PNA, was arrested today. He was detained under emergency regulations for making objectionable speeches, they said. Gen. Niazi signed the surrender documents at Dacca in the 1971 war between India and Pakistan which led to the secession of Bangladesh. He was arrested at the house of a retired army major, who was also detained. At Sukkur, 320 km from Hyderabad, at least 30 people were injured when police opened fire on students who burned a government-owned bank. Meanwhile the semi-official government newspaper the Pakistan Times today accused the United States in veiled terms of having some responsibility for the current crisis because Pakistan wanted to buy a French nuclear fuel recycling plant. The question being asked by political observers here was whether the 'present incidents' merely resulted from "a stance taken by the opposition on their own or are there some forces who are secretly motivating them from behind the scene" the daily said. Accusations against the United States have been heard for several weeks in pro-government circles of the capital, but were never expressed so clearly as in today's Pakistani Times editorial.

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## Franco-African summit ends

DAKAR, April 21 (R). — The fourth Franco-African summit conference ended here today with France pledging to help safeguard the security of French-speaking African states with which it has cooperation agreements. Security was the dominant topic during the two-day meeting attended by French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and heads of state or representatives of 18 African countries. France's last African possession, the Red Sea territory of the Afars and Issas (Djibouti), which becomes independent in June, was represented by an observer.

## Official in Beirut says U.S. anti-boycott bill will not alter Arab policy

BEIRUT, April 21 (R). — The new American bill on the Arab boycott of Israel will not influence the policy of the Arab states on the issue, a senior official of the Arab Boycott of Israel Office said here today. Mr. Nadim Al Hallak, head of the Lebanese regional office was commenting in a statement on a bill approved by the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday severely limiting cooperation by American firms with the Arab boycott. The bill would prohibit American companies from refusing to do business with Israeli firms or citizens because of the boycott. Firms would also not be allowed to give information to Arab countries about the race or religion of their employees. Mr. Hallak said: "The Arab boycott offices gather information on foreign firms through their own channels. If they establish that the firms deal with Israel, they will warn them to stop the dealings within a specified period."

## House bans U.S. firms from cooperating with Arab boycott — p. 4

Mr. Hallak added: "If they do not respond to the warning, they will be blacklisted. The Arab states will continue this policy regardless of the new American law." Mr. Hallak said most foreign firms of various nationalities were cooperation with the Arab boycott offices to safeguard their interests in the Arab states. Observers here believe the state of the fighting will only be revealed when and if government forces retake Mutshasha - an event which the government has promised to show to journalists. The official Zaire news agency reported that one more prisoner had been taken in the fighting - bringing to three the total capture since the conflict started six weeks ago. The first two, wounded and dazed, were presented at a press conference here yesterday and told reporters that Cuban soldiers had accompanied them into Zaire from Angola, but had since left the vast, sparsely-populated battle area 1,500 kms. south of here. In Nairobi, Radio Uganda reported today that President Idi Amin of Uganda says he has information from reliable sources that forces opposed to the Zaire government are moving across Tanzania to capture a town in Zaire. The radio, quoted President Amin as saying the forces intended to capture Kilemi (formerly Albertville), on the Zaire shore of Lake Tanganyika. The broadcast said the president had given the information to the Zaire charge d'affaires in Uganda. The Ugandan leader was also quoted as saying the westward movement of the forces was the real reason why Tanzania had tightened the closure of its border with Kenya. He said the capture of Kilemi would strengthen the forces now fighting Zaire government troops in Shaba province. In Moscow, the Soviet Union today issued a fresh denial of Soviet, Cuban or Angolan involvement in the fighting in Zaire, and denounced Western assistance to the government of President Mobutu. The denial followed a press conference in Kinshasa yesterday during which rebel prisoners implicated the Soviet Union, Cuba and Angola in the conflict in Zaire's southern Shaba province. The denial took the form of a statement by Moscow's semi-official Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee released early today by the Tass news agency.

## Khaddam arrives in Washington

WASHINGTON, April 21 (AFP). — Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam arrived here today for a two-day visit and talks with U.S. leaders. Mr. Khaddam is to meet U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. They are to discuss a coming meeting between Mr. Carter and Syrian President Assad in Geneva next month.

## Mobutu accuses Soviet Union of infiltrating government offices to spread subversion

KINSHASA, April 21 (R). — President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire has accused the Soviet Union of stationing agents at its embassy here and infiltrating government offices to spread subversion. President Mobutu said that the Soviet Union, Cuba and Zaire's neighbour, Angola, had backed an invasion of mineral-rich Shaba province - formerly Katanga - by ex-Katangese gendarmes. The three countries have denied the charge. President Mobutu made his new allegations in a speech delivered yesterday and published in official translation today. He said that among the government departments infiltrated by the Russians was the post office. President Mobutu, in an apparent reference to pygmy warriors who are said to be spearheading an advance of government troops in Shaba province, said: "We are using our compatriots who specialise in the use of poisoned arrows." "With these arrows we are sure of destroying the enemy, whereas with bullets there are

## Assad continues Soviet tour

MOSCOW, April 21 (AFP). — Syrian President Hafez Assad arrived in Tbilisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia today where, with his wife, he has continued a tour of the Soviet Union after three days of top-level talks in Moscow. The capital, meanwhile, has been the centre of speculation on a remark by Communist Party Secretary General Leonid Brezhnev during a warm farewell ceremony for President Assad at Moscow airport yesterday. In front of the Moscow Arab diplomatic corps who had come to see Mr. Assad off, and the Syrian delegation, accompanying the president, Mr. Brezhnev in a loud voice asked the Libyan ambassador to convey all his best wishes to Libyan leader Moamer Qadhafi. The incident has variously been interpreted by Arab diplomats here. Some view it merely as a passing remark of no special meaning while others consider it was a "gesture of support" for Col. Qadhafi whose policies are in opposition to that of several Arab countries. Mr. Assad himself is due to leave Georgia tomorrow or Saturday to return home to Damascus. After leaving Moscow yesterday Mr. Assad first visited Kiev, the capital of the Ukraine.

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SIGHTSEEING TOUR -- Syrian President Hafez Assad (second from left) tours the city of Kiev in the Soviet Union Wednesday.

## France reminds army not to meddle in politics

PARIS, April 21 (R). — The French government reminded armed forces today they must not meddle in politics, the army policy opposing a lifting of a ban on the army's political activities. An official gazette published yesterday reiterating a ban on all activities by military including officers in the army last week accepted a decision with disgust by navy minister resigned government's worst critic Gen. Franco died in a decree prohibits militiamen from joining political parties or indulging in politics in barracks or outside. The 44-year-old prime minister cancelled a trip this weekend to Barcelona where the regional military commander is identified with the conservative wing in the army. No reason was given for his decision.

**JORDAN TIMES**  
An Independent Arab newspaper published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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# Who's fault is it that West Indian immigrants face dismal future in U.K.?

In a parliamentary by-election in Britain the racist National Front Party polled more votes than the Liberal candidate. This disturbing news comes soon after publication of the report of the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration which says there is discrimination against West Indians in housing and choice of jobs open to them.

by Trevor McDoonald

LONDON, (Gemin) — I was approached some time ago by an acquaintance who confessed that he had over-estimated why young, black cricketers and some black athletes, who were born in England or had lived here for most of their lives, invariably preferred to represent the West Indies even when they qualify for England.

My friend felt that such an inclination on the part of the sportsmen who had acquired their techniques in Britain, was tantamount to a betrayal of their country of adoption.

The failure to perceive why many young black people of West Indian origin suffer an acute crisis of identity in Britain today is as sad as it is revealing. It is also a comment on the appalling ignorance generally displayed about what is, arguably, the most serious social problem facing the country.

In distinctly lugubrious tones, the latest study by the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration details the dismal outlook for black West Indians in Britain. If there is any merit in stating the obvious, the report is timely.

It talks about the desperate social conditions in which the majority of the West Indian population live. It says in terms of basic amenities, West Indian housing conditions are substantially worse than that of the rest of the population.

The Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration says that there is still widespread discrimination against West Indians in employment, not only in recruitment but in promotion. And the report makes the point, which has been stressed so many times in the past by community relations workers, that legislation against racial discrimination is not the answer in itself.

"The fact", says the report, "that much of this discrimination is covert, negligent or unintentional does not make it less harmful — and it is aggravated by a growing lack of confidence among ethnic communities, especially the young."

What is neither covert nor unintentional is the fact that as the report states young West Indians seeking a job face rejection "seemingly simply because they are black." Echoing the persistent warnings by community relations workers over the years the report adds that there is a "risk of West Indian communities becoming permanently alienated."

The committee quite correctly devoted a great deal of its time to an examination of the emotive issue of "immigrant-pollution" and in particular the controversial area of relations between young black people and the police.

The committee was able to find no conclusive evidence that crime rates were highest among black West Indians. Although the police version is that the crime rate is highest among black West Indians. The committee found what they called fundamental weaknesses in the police data however, and so both sides agreed to differ on a crucial point.

"Indeed", adds the report, "the Metropolitan (London) Police in stating that West Indians were disproportionately involved in many forms of crime added that in view of their heavy concentration in areas of urban stress, which are themselves high crime areas the pattern was not surprising." In other words, there was no evidence to justify any firm conclusions about the relative involvement of West Indians in crime.

The committee did not appear unduly surprised that racial prejudice by some police officers "seems to be established" but felt that of much greater significance is the growing hostility between the police and sections of the West Indian community. Even the police admitted to the committee that this was the "flashpoint" area in community relations.

Rather surprisingly the committee finds that it is unfair to assert that the press and television have exacerbated racial tensions in the society. But that leaves unanswered the question

of whether it finds anything reprehensible for example in the manner in which the press and television descended last year on an Asian family who had been accommodated by a local authority in an hotel near Gatwick Airport. The fact, that for weeks after that incident, blacks entering Britain were subjected to banners with insulting racial slogans, did not seem to the committee to be worthy of any particular blame.

The media staunchly defends the right to disseminate to the widest possible audience Mr. Enoch Powell's regular anti-immigrant speeches. Whatever he says on the subject is deemed "newsworthy of the fullest coverage". But the same media quite deliberately and, in my view, quite properly, refrains from giving the same treatment to similarly inflammatory statements by extreme Irish nationalists who occasionally threaten to plant bombs in London "tube" trains.

The media is still guilty of using the word "immigrant" to describe any black person, even if he were born in Britain and has never lived in another country. It does not describe as "immigrants" people from Poland, Australia or Rhodesia.

What the report does not do is to examine why things are as bad as they are. The com-

mittee has not explained why despite the passage through parliament of several anti-discrimination acts, racial discrimination is as entrenched as it ever was.

The report does not point out that this situation has arisen because the major political parties in Britain have always felt that to take an unbending stand against racial discrimination might be electorally disadvantageous. Thus when a political party is driven to the absurd position of suggesting that when they declare "Stop immigration", they are actually meant to be prescribing a formula for racial harmony. It is a macabre logic which no one quite comprehends, but which no one challenges.

Thus in an editorial in a leading newspaper, Mr. Enoch Powell's strident call for repatriation of immigrants is not condemned as cheap racist talk, but is criticised for its impracticality. In a similar vein the National Front is not repudiated nationally for its obscene rhetoric, but is merely chided for "playing on the fears of working class people."

These are serious omissions in the report. To say how bad things are without trying to explain why, is dishonest.

Black West Indians who have trodden this path before, will be excused if they view this latest report with cynicism. There have after all been six reports in the last nine years and in that time the plight of West Indians has become distinctly worse.

What is needed now is clear. There must be a determined approach by the major political forces in Britain to the problems of racism in the society.

Racial discrimination must be ruthlessly condemned and not "explained away".

Extremist parties must not be allowed the lead in discussions about race. When that happens, other parties, like the Conservative Party did in the Stechford by-election, find themselves pushed into extreme positions as well. In Stechford, the Conservative "stop immigration" posters were indistinguishable from the openly racist banners of the National Front.

If this firm stand is not taken, as the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration fears, there could be a rise in Britain of black extremist groups, just as sinister and just as dangerous as the existing anti-black parties which exist today because they were allowed to grow in a decade which was too soft in racism.

# Vorster will find he has to discuss Namibia again

By Roman Rollnick

JOHANNESBURG, April 21 (AFP). — Five Western nations and the United Nations Security Council are expected to send envoys to South Africa for a meeting with Premier John Vorster in coming weeks to discuss Namibia, the ruling Nationalist Party newspapers Beeld and The Citizen reported yesterday.

Earlier, it was announced

# Czech officials were rather clever handling question of dissidents

FRAGUE, April 21 (AFP). — Official repression against the signatories of the "Charter 77" human-rights manifesto was orchestrated so as not to sour relations between the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the parties in the West, reliable sources said here earlier this week.

The sources said that Interior Minister Jaromir Obzina, in a recent report, had explained why the authorities had reacted as they did to the charter. Some party members, said the sources, had been surprised that tougher measures were not taken against the "charter people".

In his report, Mr. Obzina said that the charter had estimated thousands of likely signatories. It had, therefore, been necessary to launch an intensive campaign to discourage potential signatories and prevent similar documents from being distributed.

Observers meanwhile said that now, a little more than three months after the charter's publication, the official policy of "modulated repression" had apparently borne fruit. This was indicated, they said, by the silence of the charter organisers and the muting of the press attacks against them.

But draconian measures were ruled out because of possible international reaction and concern not to alienate Western Communist Parties.

Mr. Obzina said according to the sources, that the Czechoslovak security services knew since last September that the charter was being drafted, but were unable to get an overall picture until the document was published.

They had therefore allowed the charter organisers to draft the document, for no other course of action was possible "now or in the future," said Mr. Obzina.

Commenting on the Namibian issue this week, South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said he hoped the United Nations and "the possible nations in the world" would refrain from any action which would jeopardise the chances of obtaining a peaceful transition to independence in the territory.

Mr. Botha said, "the leaders of the territory, black, white and coloured (mixed blood), are discussing their constitutional future around a conference table and they are not fighting it out. Is it too much to expect of the Western world and responsible African leaders to have regard to these basic facts?"

The foreign minister said that despite "formidable problems" the Namibian territory had a record of good progress economically. He did not comment on the latest diplomatic moves concerning the territory.

# Soviets are eager to size up new Indian leaders

by Chris Catlin

MOSCOW, April 21 (R). — The Soviet Union, anxious to know how the Indian election result will affect its relations with New Delhi, is using no time in making its first exploratory contact with the new government of Prime Minister Morarji Desai.

Observers here detect a sense of urgency, if not apprehension, in the trip to India next week by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, who will be the first such guest from a major power to be received by Indian External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Mr. Gromyko is due to arrive on April 25.

The long-standing invitation was renewed by Mr. Vajpayee soon after he took office, but it was Mr. Gromyko's decision to take it up so promptly, only a month after the elections.

The defeated Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, had been more intensively cultivated by Moscow than almost any other Third World leader. The Kremlin applauded her unpopular emergency measures and gave her public backing before the poll.

Now it is her political opponents, once written off here as rightwingers, who are being sent cordial messages from Soviet leaders and encouraged

to work for close Soviet-Indian ties. Commented the Soviet Communist daily Pravda: "These links were constantly distinguished by stability and were not subjected to the ups and downs of politics or the influence of transient factors."

Although the Soviet Union wants things to stay that way, it does not seem to regard the prospect as a foregone conclusion, observers believe.

The traumatic experience of having Egypt tear up just such a friendship treaty last year has made the Soviet Union wary. Moscow kept aloof from the U.S. election battle, but with India its task of adjusting to a new government is complicated by the vocal support it once gave to Mrs. Gandhi.

Less than a year ago Soviet leaders laid on for Mrs. Gandhi one of the most lavish welcomes they have ever accorded any leader. Yet in the few weeks since her defeat Moscow has done its best to recover from backing a loser.

The victorious Janata (People's) Party, once referring to her as part of a rightwing bloc, has since been exempt from criticism.

But observers are sure one of the things Mr. Gromyko will want to gauge is whether India's new government lead-

ers still bear the Soviet Union any grudge for the support it once gave their opponents.

Mr. Gromyko may also seek some form of assurance, probably in the communiqué after the visit, of India's continuing commitment to its friendship treaty with Moscow.

Since taking office Mr. Desai has said the treaty would have to be changed if it ever came in the way of India's friendship with other countries.

Observers say Moscow could be uneasy about what exactly the Indian premier had in mind, but the nearest thing to a response here has been the recent assurance from Deputy Premier Venkiah Dymshits that the treaty "does not threaten anyone."

The official press has preferred to concentrate attention on Indian government statements that foreign policy will follow the same basic lines as before — a point stressed by Indian diplomats.

"There may be a change of style in relations with Moscow, but there will not be a change of substance," predicted one Indian observer.

Mr. Gromyko, in his talks with Mr. Vajpayee, will probably seek to assess the likelihood of a new balance in Indian foreign policy between relations with Moscow and

those with Washington.

Yet despite these political uncertainties, the Soviet Union seems able to count on continued Indian interest in close economic ties.

"Economic relations are based on mutual benefit, and so long as this remains so, why weaken them?" One diplomat here commented.

India is the Soviet Union's third-largest trade partner in Asia after Japan and Iraq. Last year turnover totalled over 647 million roubles (\$505 million) with the balance in India's favour — a surplus that goes towards paying for Soviet aid.

Mr. Gromyko, who will be in India from April 25 to 27, will be taking a team of foreign affairs experts with him, including Deputy Foreign Minister Nikolai Firyubin and Anatoly Kovalyov.

# The House submits

The U.S. House of Representatives has overwhelmingly passed its version of the legislation to counter the Arab Boycott of Israel in the United States. The Senate still has to pass its own version before the final bill is signed into law by President Carter, who will no doubt take the opportunity to engage in some solemn moralising about how this legislation demonstrates America's commitment to freedom, principles of morality and equal opportunity for all, if not hot lunches and afternoon naps for every school-child in the world.

What strikes us most about this legislation, and the entire effort in the United States to counter the Arab boycott, is the sheer weight of its hypocrisy and the great confusion it has spurred in the minds of American legislators. The final result will probably make little difference to anyone in the end, because there are enough loopholes in the legislation to allow Arab-American business to go on pretty much undisturbed. But it still strikes us as unnecessarily humiliating and bad precedent for the American House of Representatives to totally miss the political point of the Arab boycott and treat it as "discrimination" on the basis of religion or "optional origin". It is intellectually wrong and morally irrelevant for American lawmakers to try and force the fine principles of their constitutional egalitarianism and equality of opportunity upon a political-military conflict in the Middle East that has nothing to do with American law, tradition or commercial mores.

The reality that emerges slowly is that the Americans will have their anti-boycott legislation (note to American university sophomores looking for fresh research projects: Is this legislation the psychological punching bag by which the Americans feel they are getting even with Arab and OPEC oil power?) but in such a manner that trade will go on about as usual, probably with only slight shifts in contracts and traditional supply arrangements. Congressmen will send letters to their constituents, President Carter will make some very heavy speeches about the triumph of American Ethics, and very little will change in the end, except for that one very little chip of self-respect and honesty that shall have been gouged out of the American Congress.

The price of this is not Arab compliance with American legal and ethical tradition, but rather American congressional submission to the infinite narcissism of Zionism. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson are probably thankful they're not alive to see this taking place.

# ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Three Jordanian dailies took up different subjects in their Thursday editorials. Al Rai commented on the lax working atmosphere pervading the government's administrative body in addition to the neglect and indifference of some of its employees. Al Dustour discussed His Majesty's interview with the French daily Le Monde in which he warned that the Middle East is heading for disaster unless serious negotiations set underway this year. As for Al Sha'b, it considered President Assad's visit to Moscow as an important step towards further peace efforts.

AL RAI, said that in the government's administrative body there exists a kind of indifference by some of the employees in performing their duties and a slackening off by others in shouldering their responsibilities. Production is not satisfactory in spite of the availability of the necessary human elements, the paper said.

This state is the result of past defects still prevailing, such as favoritism for some employees, unequal treatment of others in addition to lower wages compared to other sectors.

If we are to ask government employees to work conscientiously and perform their duties with efficiency on one hand, we should not cheat them of their rights on the other. If the government is capable of taking disciplinary measures against employees who have failed their duties, it can appoint the right person to the right position, the paper added. Thus the administrative body would be able to perform efficiently and help to transform Jordan into a society of production.

ving condition of Arabs under occupation and threatens to drag the region into catastrophe. Such a threat, the paper said, should be taken seriously and bring the two super powers to exercise an effective role to prevent it.

If the peace initiative is left in the hands of the Israelis it will progress very slowly, while it is imperative for some kind of progress to be achieved this year. Israel should realise that the idea of an alternative Palestinian homeland is a conspiracy against Jordanians and Palestinians alike. No Arab could accept such a proposal.

It should also be understood, the paper added, that Jordan has an important role to play in the peace efforts and that it has proved its effectiveness as a factor of stability and progress in the region. Only when these facts are taken into consideration can the peace process progress, the paper concluded.

AL SHA'B, ventures to say that President Assad's visit to Moscow has helped to warm up Syrian-Soviet relations. The cooling off in relations between the two countries during the past two years have reflected on Arab-Soviet relations and the Soviet stand on the Middle East in particular. It allowed the United States to take the initiative in peace efforts, the paper added.

The Syrian visit now helps to bring back the required balance needed for any international peace effort, in particular international efforts aimed at reconvening the Geneva Middle East peace conference, in which the Soviet Union co-chairs with the United States. Therefore it is not in our national interest to ignore the Soviet role. It is not wise to antagonise the Soviet Union, the paper concluded, in our effort to conciliate the United States. The best thing is to gain the friendship of both.

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# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION	AMMAN AIRPORT	VOICE OF AMERICA
Channel 5 & 6: 10:00 Quran 10:10 Cartoons 10:35 Encyclopaedia Britannica 10:55 Arabic series 11:25 Three stooges 11:45 Religious programme 12:30 Cultural film 12:45 Arabic series 14:00 Cartoons 14:30 Soccer match 14:50 Doc Elliot	Arrivals: 7:55 Cairo (EA) 10:30 Beirut 11:15 Aleppo, Damascus (SAA) 11:45 Kuwait (KAC) 18:20 Algaba 18:20 Jeddah, Medina, Basel, Jauf, Badana (SDI) 18:45 Cairo 17:00 Paris, Rome 17:30 Beirut (MEA), Tunis, Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)	GMT 03:00 The Breakfast Show 06:30 The Breakfast Show 09:30 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary 12:00 VOA Current News Summary 13:30 VOA Magazine, Actualities, Science, Cultural, Letters 17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary 17:30 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary 18:00 Special English, News
RADIO JORDAN	BBC RADIO	USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
7:00 Breakfast show 7:30 News 7:45 News reports 8:00 Sign off 10:00 Listeners' choice 11:00 My kind of music 11:30 Catch the words 11:45 Arab centres 12:00 Pop session 13:00 News summary 13:05 Pop session 14:00 News 14:10 Radio magazine	14:15 Letterbox 14:30 My Kind of Music 15:00 Radio Newswel 15:15 Outlook 16:00 News; Commentary 16:15 Science in Action 16:45 The World Today 17:00 News 17:09 Music Now 17:30 Sports Choice 17:45 Sports Round-up 18:00 News 18:15 Radio Newswel 18:20 What's New? 19:00 Outlook News Summary 19:43 Stock Market 19:45 Strips up the Band 20:00 News; 24 hours 20:30 100 Years of Recorded Sound 21:00 World Radio Club 21:15 Sarah Ward Requests 21:45 Scotland '77 22:00 News; The World Today 22:25 Financial News 22:45 Sports Round-up 23:00 World News; Commentary 23:15 Uster This Week 23:45 Don Moss Requests	Ambulance (government) Tel. 7811 Civil defence rescue 2388-4 Fire headquarters 2388 First aid, fire, police 19 Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 2693-2 Municipal water services (emergency) 2711-3 Police headquarters 2614 Najfeh, moving patrol rescue police, English spoken 24 hours a day for emergency help 2111, 2777 Airport information (AIA) 2288
EMERGENCIES		Cultural Centres
Doctors: Amman: Nayef Khadra (44477) Abdul Salam Mutsaers (77733) Irbid: Taha Abubach (3211) Ghaz Obaidat Zarqa: Mustapha Fayad (53031) Pharmacies: Amman: Assimah (37055) Yarad (72775)	Jabal Hussein (38410) Jabal Amman (26494) Irbid: Maghayrah Yarmuk Zarqa: Saadeh Tatay: Hamra (44833) Medical Centre (44281) Khayam (41541) University (51001)	American Centre (USA) Tel. 4128 British Council 2617-6 French Cultural Centre 2780 Gothic Institute 4188 Soviet Cultural Centre 2611 Amman Municipal Library 2611

هكذا صوتنا

هجره اوله

# In meeting with agriculture officials Badran urges creation of operations centre

AMMAN (JNA). — Premier Mudar Badran has called for the creation of an operations centre to help the country's farmers boost production in irrigated areas.

In a meeting with Ministry of Agriculture officials Thursday, he stressed the need to establish the necessary structures to develop this vital sector of the economy.

He stated that the incentive to farmers to produce is inherent, but they need guidance and instruction by officials of the ministry. He proposed that the Ministry of Agriculture set up an operations centre for all irrigated land in the country, through which guidance can be given to farmers to plant certain types of vegetables with better results.

He called for support and greater jurisdiction for the Agricultural Marketing Institution to enable it to study external and domestic markets in order to plan production and lay a basis for farmer-consumer cooperation.

Referring to projects now being implemented in the Jordan Valley, Mr. Badran said some huge projects are planned to increase production. Their aim is to expand cultivated areas and introduce practical methods of sprinkler irrigation.

He stressed his awareness of problems encountered by farmers with middlemen: "We intend to do away with exploitation, as free enterprise does not mean exploitation."

Sincerity and devotion should be the factors motivating the farmer, the premier said. "There is no place for a lazy, apathetic or selfish man in our

development process," he stressed, adding that agriculture officials should set an example by shunning nonchalance.

"We believe in self-criticism," he continued. "Our country enjoys extensive freedom in this respect, which means that any constructive criticism is considered as a way of pushing forward plans."

A meeting will be held next week to determine a working policy for the Farmers Union, which will receive government support through supplies of fertilizers and insecticides and the construction of machine-repair workshops.

Mr. Badran urged speedy action to set up centres for the sorting and packing of vegetables so that farmers are not exploited.

Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a also spoke stressing the importance of his ministry's role in continuing to supervise certain projects through the formation of cooperative societies in areas of agricultural reclamation.

Mr. Jum'a pointed out the importance of creating mutual trust between farmers and agricultural counsellors at the ministry. He said agricultural guidance is still unable to reach the heat of the problem, namely winning the farmers' confidence.

The Jordan Valley will in the future be an integrated unit in agricultural production, related industries, and the introduction of new agricultural methods, he stressed, adding that Jordan is the top country in the region for scientific research, particularly into wheat and barley production.

He suggested that journalists should visit agricultural projects to learn about development in this sector.

The premier was told about a number of the ministry's projects including a cow dairy farm, whose daily milk output will be raised to 3-4 tonnes.

Mr. Badran was also told about projects being implemented in cooperation with the National Planning Council at a cost of JDS million. These projects embrace afforestation, wheat crops, the development of dry-land farming, the production of forest saplings and soil survey and classification.

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Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath stroll around the second children's book exhibition which they opened at King Hussein Club Friday afternoon. Organised by the Friends of Children Theatre in cooperation with the Arab Research Centre, the week-long exhibition displays 100,000 books on various subjects -- all to stimulate the minds of the nation's children.

## Syrian minister talks tourism with Badran

AMMAN (JNA). — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Thursday morning received Syrian Minister of Tourism Dr. Ghassan Shalhoub and his Jordanian counterpart, Ghaleb Barakat who briefed him on the work of the Joint Tourism Committee and cooperation between the two ministries in the field of planning and administration.

They also explained details of a plan to set up a joint company to exploit tourist ventures in which the public and private sectors would participate and another for tourist transportation and promotion.

The Syrian tourist minister told reporters it was agreed to issue a detailed tourist map of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, assuming that the three countries form one touristic entity -- and publish a joint calendar, posters, pamphlets and guidebook in several languages.

A film will be made highlighting tourist and archaeological landmarks in the two countries, Dr. Shalhoub added.

A specialised committee will be formed to classify hotels, restaurants, motels, chalets and parks, he continued.

Dr. Shalhoub also met Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouni. Mr. Barakat and the United Arab Emirates charge d'affaires here attended the meeting.

## SON OF BAHRAINI EMIR ARRIVES ON SHORT VISIT

AMMAN (JNA). — Emir Ra'ed Bin Issa Al Khalifeh, a son of the emir of Bahrain, arrived here Thursday on a short private visit.

He was received at the airport by Sharif Nasser Bin Jamil, the Bahraini, North Yemeni, and Kuwaiti ambassadors, and the Saudi and United Arab Emirates charges d'affaires here.

## Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

U.K. sterling	569.0	575.0
U.S. dollar	330.0	332.0
German mark	139.4	139.8
French franc	66.8	67.1
Swiss franc	131.2	131.3
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.3	37.5
Saudi riyal	93.5	93.8
Lebanese pound	105.9	109.4
Syrian pound	80.7	81.0
Iraqi dinar	945.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,148.0	1,152.0
Egyptian pound	462.0	470.0
Libyan dinar	780.0	800.0
UAE dirham	84.3	84.8

## IRBID - JARASH ROAD REOPENS

AMMAN (JNA). — Public security sources Thursday announced that the Thograt-Azfar part of the Irbid-Jarash road is now open. It was closed to traffic while that section of the road was widened.

## Arab cause boosted at parliamentary conference

AMMAN (JNA). — The Arab cause got a favourable reception at an International Parliamentary Union meet held in Canberra April 11-16, according to Jordan's delegation, which returned here Thursday.

Delegation sources stated that resolutions passed by the union were favourable to the Arab cause.

The union decided to discuss the problem of human rights in the occupied Arab territories at its next general council meeting to open in Sofia on Sept. 28.

The parliamentary delegation, comprising Upper House members Dr. Amin Amr and Fouad Qaqish, gave a report on the meeting to Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouni.

# Greek Cypriot F.M. urges Israeli pullout from occupied lands

AMMAN (J.T.). — Greek Cypriot Foreign Minister J. Christophides has called for a full Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people.

Mr. Christophides was opening the 41st conference of the Middle East region of the Rotary International in Limassol last week.

Addressing himself in particular to Arab participants, including 25 Jordanians, he stated: "We, who live in Cyprus, and those of you who have come from neighbouring Arab countries, bear witness to and suffer under the weight of the grave injustices perpetrated in our respective countries. These injustices are the cause of a serious threat to peace in the area and without their removal one cannot hope for a lasting peace."

"In the Middle East there can be no radical and final solution unless Israel withdraws from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and unless the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return to their homes in safety, are fully restored -- in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. It is only thus that a just and, therefore, durable peace in the region can be achieved."

He stressed the similarities between the Cypriot and Palestinian problems, mentioning human displacement, military occupation and violation of human rights.

## JAPANESE TEAM HERE TO DISCUSS JDSm LOAN FOR JORDAN VALLEY

AMMAN (JNA). — Discussions are taking place here between a team from the National Planning Council and the Jordan Valley Commission and a delegation from a Japanese foreign aid fund on an JDS million loan to finance the building of the Wadi Al Arab dam and a sprinkler network in the Baqoura area of the northern Ghor.

The Japanese delegation, headed by a top official of the fund, will visit the Jordan Valley to look over agricultural and irrigation projects.

The Japanese team arrived in Amman Monday.

## S'heimat leaves for maritime co. meeting

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Transport Ali S'heimat leaves for Damascus Saturday to take part in the general assembly of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Maritime Company, which will discuss the company's budget and work out a plan for the company.

Mr. S'heimat is also expected to discuss with his Syrian counterpart matters related to the land transport between the two countries.

## NATIONAL NOTES

\* AMMAN. — Civil Defence Director Maj.-Gen. Khaled Tarawneh leaves here for Damascus Sunday on a short visit to discuss standardisation of civil defence regulations and laws in the two countries.

\* AMMAN. — Acting Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Maj.-Gen. Mohammad Idriss inspected manoeuvres carried out by an artillery division Thursday.

\* AMMAN. — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim was decorated with the highest Spanish decoration by the Spanish ambassador here Thursday. The decoration was bestowed upon Mr. Ibrahim by King Juan Carlos during his recent visit to Jordan.

\* AMMAN. — Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kamal Hmuud received the Japanese ambassador to Jordan Thursday.

\* AMMAN. — An exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Ahmad Na'wash opened in the French city of Lyons Thursday. It was sponsored by the Arab-French Friendship Society.

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ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Carter presents energy-saving plan; but congressional rejection likely

WASHINGTON, April 21 (R). — Mr. Carter presented a controversial energy-saving plan to Americans last night, saying: "I don't expect much applause." The initial reaction suggested that a central part of his program — higher petrol taxes — would be resoundingly rejected by Congress.

French, German industry federations urge West to avoid protectionism

HANNOVER, April 21 (AFP). — The presidents of the French and West German industry federations, Francois Ceyrac and Hartin Hans Schleyer, both urged industrial countries to avert a return to protectionism.

OPEC wishes Carter success in energy plan

VIENNA, April 21, (R). — OPEC wished President Carter success today in carrying out the new U.S. energy-saving programme, but withheld detailed comment on his proposals to Congress.

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices declined sharply Thursday on the New York stock exchange where the industrial average lost nearly seven points in moderate trading.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market was higher Thursday in light trading, dealers said. At 15:00 the F.T. index was up 5.6 at 418.1. Market sentiment was aided by news that the Scottish Trade Union Congress had rejected a militant miners' resolution calling for an end to pay restraints.

The House approves bill banning U.S. firms from cooperating with Arab boycott

WASHINGTON, April 21 (R). — The House of Representatives has overwhelmingly approved a bill banning U.S. firms from cooperating with the Arab trade boycott of Israel.

U.S. Congress bans export of Alaska oil for 2 years

WASHINGTON, April 21 (R). — The House of Representatives has voted to ban the export of oil from Alaska's North Slope for two years pending plans to distribute it in the United States.

EEC rejects export quota as basis for sugar agreement

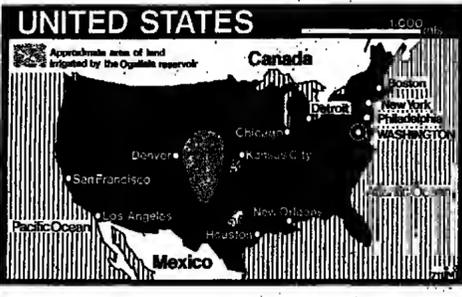
GENEVA, April 21 (R). — The European Economic Community today rejected an export quota system as the basis for a new international sugar agreement, advocating instead an international stocking policy.

Subterranean water resources are drying up due to massive irrigation systems

World demand for increased water supplies for domestic, agricultural and industrial uses as populations increase is causing serious strains on this vital resource. The recent U.N. water conference in Argentina stressed the urgent need for conservation.

Cuba proposes 15c lb. floor price on sugar

GENEVA, April 21 (R). — Cuba yesterday formally proposed setting a price range of between 15 to 25 United States cents a pound for sugar in a new international agreement being negotiated here to regulate world free market trade.



depleted within the next 25 years. Although most farmers, corporate or private, whose livelihood depends on the Ogallala Reservoir or on similar ground water reserves are unwilling to admit that the days of massive irrigation are numbered, the trend is nonetheless clear.

Silver revival makes the metal well worth stealing

Silver is enjoying a big revival. Not only are prices surging up for silver and plate made in the past 100 years but also, one can use it daily. Small wonder that burglars make straight for the dining-room at the start of a break-in.

This is a pattern that is continuing. Having sold more than 100,000 lots of silver worth nearly £16 million over the past 11 years, Sotheby's is the biggest seller of silver and plate at auction in the world.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

- \* HONG KONG, April 21 (AFP). — China is now storing some of its oil in a newly-developed stone-cave oil tank underground. The official Chinese News agency reported that the first stone-cave tank was already in use.

lution has grown far faster. Furthermore, not all land under cultivation produces food crops for domestic consumption. Export crops such as cotton, rice, onions and potatoes provide much needed foreign exchange earnings.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

### GOREN BRIDGE

**HARLES H. GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF**  
By Chicago Tribune

**NORTH**  
♠ KJ85  
♥ Q4  
♦ KJ42  
♣ AQ7  
**EAST**  
♠ 642  
♥ A73  
♦ K92  
♣ AQ987  
**SOUTH**  
♠ Q  
♥ A108653  
♦ Void  
♣ KJ9653

If the auction seems strange, it is because North-South were employing transfer bids over no trump opening bids. Thus, Eisaberg's

two diamond bid actually showed hearts. The rest of the auction was natural, and Billy's final push to six clubs was because his team was in arrears at the time.

East-West were employing third- and fifth-best opening leads, and West chose to attack with the five of diamonds. The normal

play would seem to be the jack, but Eisaberg unhesitatingly called for the deuce. He reasoned that, even if West had led away from the

queen, East would have to exhibit great fortitude to insert the ten from A-10. Also,

there was the possibility that East held both the ace and queen.

East could not read the position and played the diamond queen. Declarer ruffed, entered dummy with a trump and led the king of

diamonds. East covered and declarer ruffed. With the jack of diamonds established as a discard for declarer's spade, Eisaberg lost only a heart trick and

the slam rolled home. Note that had declarer played a diamond honor from dummy at the first trick, he would have been defeated.

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## THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



THE TURNBERRY HOTEL from the 6th tee of the Ailsa Course: The British Open takes place at Turnberry in Silver Jubilee Year.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 1977

## Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** You are influenced greatly by the heavy planetary positions which are in affect right now. Make sure you look to some optimistic outlets which could lead to success in spite of various delays and unusual conditions which are also now in operation.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Forget tedious tasks for a while and get into activities that give you true pleasure. Avoid those who would have you playing the fool.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Not a good time to get into a new plan you have in mind since you need to study it further. Do nothing drastic you might be sorry for later.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Forget duty for a while and enjoy the company of good friends. Sidestep some trouble that could be brewing.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21)** Spend more thought on personal affairs and you know how to handle them more efficiently, get good results. Steer clear of a partner who depresses you and takes up your time.

**LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21)** Look to a good friend to help you out of your depression and get a new lease on life. Don't make a big to-do about something you can do nothing about. Relax.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Use common sense and you rise above petty conditions around you. Show that you are a person of real character. Participate more in civic affairs.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Make new contacts and get a new lease on life so that you do not feel so restricted. Stop worrying about money and find new ways to have a greater abundance. Expand your horizons.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Look at your obligations objectively so you know how to handle them better, get good results. Think constructively.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Instead of getting irate over financial affairs, think out how to be more cooperative with associates. Get involved in a civic affair that help your reputation.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Get busy working on something practical and profitable instead of worrying about money and doing nothing. Do not worry so much about a loved one either, or you lose incentive.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Forget that secret worry and do things that give you pleasure, a feeling of accomplishment. Steer clear of annoying situations. Don't spoil what could be a rewarding interview by arriving late.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** You are well aware of what pleases kin so do what you can to increase their happiness. Take advantage of changes in your job that could get you out of the rut you are in.

**GRAFFITI**  
©1977 Graffiti Systems, Inc.

...HALLO!  
IS THIS 6771-2-3-4?  
I'D LIKE TO RESERVE  
A SPACE FOR AN AD IN  
THE JORDAN TIMES...

Plain cooking  
can't be  
entrusted  
to  
plain cooks

**LAUGHS FROM EUROPE**

GERMANY  
Facke

"Herman, take out the garbage before we leave for the costume ball."

**THE BETTER HALF.** By Barnes

"Give him two aspirins now and two at noon and try not to say 'I told you so' till evening."

**PEANUTS**

CHOP CHOP CHOP CHOP

MAY DAY! MAY DAY!

**THE FLINTSTONES**

BUS STOP

**MUTT AND JEFF**

YOU SHOULD NOT BE VEXED JUST BECAUSE I CALLED YOU TO TELL YOU YOUR ACCOUNT IS OVERDRAWN!

FORTY BUCKS SHORT, EH - HOW DID MY ACCOUNT STAND TWO WEEKS AGO?

WELL, YOU WERE SITTING PRETTY THEN! YOU HAD ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY DOLLARS TO YOUR CREDIT!

AH HA! THERE YOU ARE!

YOU HAD MY MONEY THEN AND I ACTED LIKE A GENTLEMAN! I DIDN'T CALL YOU! NOW I HAVE FORTY DOLLARS OF YOURS AND YOU START A RIOT!

**JUMBLE**  
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Use these four Jumbles, one to each square, to form many words.

**WICH**  
**INAL**  
**BBIE**  
**TRUM**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

First answer here.

Jumbles: CLEFT SCARY HAZING GRAVEN  
Answer: How to stop a horse - "HALT-ER"

**WORD PUZZLE**

27. English bullfinch  
28. Adherent suffix  
29. Clumsy boat  
30. Agree  
31. Have being  
32. Sheep  
33. Reddish purple  
34. New England cape

**SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE**

**DOWN**

1. Flowering shrub  
2. Unselfishness  
3. Subtle  
4. Addition to a letter

5. Temple  
6. Abstract being  
7. Serve  
8. Overact  
9. Bombast  
10. Stout  
11. Harsh alkali  
12. Rattlepate  
13. Disadvantage  
14. Skit  
15. Nonsense  
16. Exasperate  
17. Tuna-like fish  
18. Single television programs  
19. Seaweed  
20. Trouble  
21. Beard of grain  
22. Crane arm  
23. Growing out  
24. Waterfall  
25. Hunting dog  
26. Vegetable  
27. Engine hook  
28. Rice paste  
29. King of Midian  
30. Sheep disease  
31. Provided  
32. Enlisted man, colloq.

**TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE**

**BIG VALLEY: SHADOW OF A GIANT**  
The Barkley brothers help Marshal fight insurgents who attack town.

**DOCTOR ELLIOT: SMALL HAND**  
Doctor Elliot helps unwed mother give birth to her child.

**GEORGE AND MILDRED: MY HUSBAND NEXT DOOR**  
George, by mistake changes wallpaper in his neighbour's house instead of his own.

**KOJAK: A HAIR TRIGGER AWAY**  
Kojak and his men stalk gang specialised in smuggling and traffic of drugs.

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JORDAN TIMES IN  
DAMASCUS - JEDDAH - DUBAI

Abdul Rahman Kaysari  
Mecca Book Shop  
Dar Al Hikmah Book Shop

**OUT AND ABOUT**

**QUICK MEAL**  
Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luweldah, Hanuz Circle. Tel. 30646. Jabal Al Husseini, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also to Zarqa and Irbid.

**CHINESE RESTAURANT**  
First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Abiyah School or CMS. Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service-order by phone.

**THE DIPLOMAT**  
First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 25592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

# Powerful quakes hit Pacific island

SYDNEY, April 21 (R). — Powerful earthquakes today struck Guadalcanal Island in the British Solomon group, killing at least one person and damaging buildings in the capital of Honiara.

Three, and possibly four, quakes hit the mountainous, heavily forested island, which was the scene of savage fighting between United States and Japanese forces in World War II.

They ranged over a period of five hours, from mid-morning to mid-afternoon, and the strongest registered 7.4 on the open-ended Richter scale.

A correspondent of the Australian Associated Press (AAP) news agency, in a brief telephone call to Sydney tonight,

reported that the one confirmed fatality was a Chinese girl electrocuted by falling power lines.

He said residents of Honiara, a town of 15,000 inhabitants which Queen Elizabeth visited in February during her Silver Jubilee tour of the Pacific, rushed into the streets in panic when the first quake struck this morning. It measured 6.7 on the Richter scale.

"It was terrifying," he said. "The ground trembled and cracks opened up."

Five minutes after the first shock, a second and more powerful quake shook the town. A third quake, which the correspondent described as the worst, followed several hours later. It stopped electricity supply.

plies and phone communications.

The correspondent, whose call could barely be heard, said he did not know of any other confirmed casualties in the capital, but reported he saw someone being carried out of the Post Office.

He said structural damage in Honiara itself was slight but that of the Fong Kong and Shanghai Bank building is cracked.

A rice mill had been damaged on the outskirts of the town, and a number of rice silos were wrecked, he said.

The geophysical observatory at Port Moresby, capital of Papua, New Guinea, reported registering four quakes all centred about 100 to 200 kms. northeast of Honiara, which lies on the northern coast of Guadalcanal Island. This suggested the epicentre might have been somewhere in the Solomon Sea.

# Israel fears new moves on "Zionism-racialism" issue

UNITED NATIONS, April 21 (R). — Israel has asked friendly countries to oppose what it said were possible moves by the Arab states and the Soviet Union to use a world conference against racism next year as a forum for attacking Zionism.

In a letter to a number of U.N. missions, including those of several African states, Israeli representative Chaim Herzog said there was a possibility that the backers of a 1975 General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism would attempt to "inject the issue" into the conference.

Mr. Herzog said this was reflected in several recommendations included in a report of a sub-committee making preparations for the conference, expected to take place in late August or early September 1978.

The report is now being considered by the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Ghana originally offered to host the conference, but withdrew earlier this year because of the costs involved in building a conference centre and two hotels.

New York and Geneva have since been chosen as possible alternative sites.

# 4 Moslem countries join efforts to solve Filipino rebellion

MANILA, April 21 (Agencies) — Officials from Moslem countries join negotiations between the Philippines government and the rebel Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) tomorrow to help solve the four-year Moslem rebellion in the south, a spokesman said today.

An Islamic Conference spokesman told Reuters the talks were designed to achieve a provisional government for 13 southern provinces the MNLF wants to turn into an autonomous region, regardless of a referendum there last Sunday.

"We have nothing to do with that referendum which had nothing to do with earlier agreements," the spokesman said of the vote in which most people appear to have rejected a single region under MNLF control.

Counting is not yet over, but with half the referendum ballots counted the Election Commission said over 90 per cent of the voters rejected the proposition. The MNLF boycotted the poll.

The MNLF rejected the referendum on the grounds that

## THAI GENERAL EXECUTED

BANGKOK, April 21 (R). — A senior Thai general was executed today without trial for his part in an abortive coup attempt last month, well-informed sources said. He was 54-year-old Gen. Chalard Bhan-yasiri, a former Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the army, the sources said. They said the decision to execute him was taken this morning at a joint meeting of the cabinet.

military coup which ended nearly half-a-century of rightwing dictatorship.

On television last night, veteran Communist Octavio Pato, a member of the Central Committee and unsuccessful presidential candidate last year, offered a joint inquiry with the Socialists into the Salvaterra de Magos incident.

But he accused the Socialists of exaggerating the affair at a time when reactionary forces were reinforcing their anti-Communist campaign. He also deplored the "openly anti-Communist" tone of remarks by Dr. Soares in the U.S. which he said had nothing at all to do with the farmland incident.

# Communist-Socialist war of words clouds Portuguese scene

LISBON, April 21 (R). — The Portuguese Communist Party today accused the ruling Socialists of deliberately exaggerating a recent public incident as part of a major drive to poison the political climate in Portugal.

A long Communist Party statement said it deplored an attempt by some of its militants to break up an agrarian reform meeting called by the Socialists in the central farming town of Salvaterra de Magos. But it said Socialist reaction was out of all proportions to the incident.

Socialist Party National Secretary Jaime Gama promptly rejected the Communist response as unacceptable.

He said it fell short of the formal apology and punishment for the offenders demanded by the Socialist Party.

Relations between the nation's two major leftwing parties, once cabinet allies after the 1974 revolution, have reached such a low that political commentators say the minority Socialist government's plans for economic recovery, a social pact with the workers, and the tidying-up of agrarian reform could be made more complicated since the Communists control most of the industrial and farming unions.

The new and bitter row between Socialists and Communists has erupted while Socialist Prime Minister Mario Soares is in the United States trying to arrange a \$1.5 billion multinational loan to save Portugal's ailing economy.

It also comes only a few days before Portugal celebrates the third anniversary of the

armed military coup which ended nearly half-a-century of rightwing dictatorship.

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# UNESCO meet agrees world news flow is imbalanced

FLORENCE, Italy, April 21 (R). — A conference of more than 100 media representatives and government officials of some 30 countries ended here yesterday night with agreement that there was an imbalance in flow of information between the industrialised and developing worlds.

But the three-day United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) "colloquium" got bogged down in imbalance should be rectified.

Representatives from Third World countries, led by

Tunisia, argued that a new world information order was a prerequisite to a new world economic order.

They accused the Western media of inadequate and distorted reporting and of cultural imperialism, accusations which were rejected by American and other Western representatives and their supporters.

The conference divided into three groups to discuss information flow, cooperation for the development of means of communication and the status and responsibilities of journalists in the exercise of their profession.

The final "communiqué" said that despite the diversity of views expressed, participants agreed on the necessity to undertake "considerable efforts" to remedy the imbalance and on the need for a "free and balanced exchange of information with a view to international understanding, peace and the intellectual enrichment of men."

Nothing is being done for them, they say, and protesting crowd, several hundred strong, chanting "we are not circus animals, invaded the Town Hall this week and prevented a debate from being televised by a foreign television channel."

"They talk a lot abroad about Seveso but they do nothing for us here," explained the demonstrators, many of whom have found "temporary" accommodation in local inns and hotels.

Meanwhile, heavily-protected researchers scour their abandoned homes and in the worst-hit spots, have found a contamination rate 10 times higher than the Vietnam war zones ravaged by the destructive defoliants used by the U.S. air force.

There is an atmosphere of war around Seveso. The town is surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by 500 troops while scientists within try to find a way to decontaminate the area.

But there has never been another case like Seveso and scientists admit they are working in the dark. The dioxin still has not been recovered. It lies everywhere and invisible, in the soil, in the trees, in the ponds.

And it appears to be spreading. A report this week from Zurich showed dangerous levels of dioxin in soil samples from the Cesano Maderno re-

gions in it were weighted against the movement and did not conform to an agreement between Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos.

The delegation from the Islamic nations Quadrupartite Committee, composed of Libya, Somalia, Senegal and Saudi Arabia arrived here yesterday.

Libyan Foreign Affairs Secretary Dr. Abdul Salam Turki heads the team.

The delegation said any settlement must include the MNLF in a provisional government and said the front was the "sole legitimate" representative for a solution.

President Marcos, who said the referendum was in accordance with his agreement with Col. Qadhafi, has said several regional governments could be set up in the south with guar-

anteed Moslem representation. Meanwhile, Philippines military authorities said today six guerrillas were killed, two separate clashes with government forces on Wednesday in central Philippines.

A military report said a man guerrilla was captured one of the encounters, at log, in the eastern Samar province, 576 kms. southeast Manila.

The government side consisted of police, military and its units suffered no casualties. A number guerrillas escaped capture retreating to the jungles, added.

The insurgents were identified by officials as members of the New People's Army, fighting arm of the Mi-wing of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philipp-

# El Salvador government may be negotiating release of kidnapped F.M.

SAN SALVADOR, April 21 (R). — Government officials here refuse to say whether they are negotiating with guerrillas demanding the release of 37 political prisoners for the life of El Salvador's foreign minister.

The guerrillas said in a new communique sent to news media last night they still intended to kill Senor Mauricio Borgon-

ovo Pohl unless the prisoners were flown to asylum in nearby country.

President Arturo Molina Reuter after an emergency net meeting yesterday the emment had decided to stay public response to the nappers.

He later met El Salvador Roman Catholic bishops move interpreted as an attempt to open secret communications with the guerrillas since church has sometimes acted as intermediary in previous nappings.

The guerrillas, from a known group calling itself Popular Liberation Forces, led Senor Borgonovo on his way to work on Tuesday. They most of the 37 prisoners arrested in a government operation of opponents during the two months.

# Sales of UNICEF cards drop \$2m

UNITED NATIONS, April 21 (R). — U.N. children's fund (UNICEF) greeting cards sales fell by more than \$2 million last year, the agency reported yesterday.

The drop -- from \$8.7 million in 1975 to \$6.5 million last year.

The agency's total revenue from voluntary contributions last year was down more than \$5 million to \$140.9 million.

The European Economic Community was by far the biggest donor of food to the agency, contributing 56 per cent of total amount of the 25,984 metric tons it received.

UNICEF placed purchase orders in 104 countries in and the biggest went to suppliers in the United States (\$1.2 billion), followed by Britain (\$673 million), India (\$53.8 million), West Germany (\$5.79 million), Japan (\$5.1 million Sweden (\$3.98 million).

# What about the people of contaminated Seveso

By Patrick Meney

SEVESO, April 21 (AFP). — On July 10 last year the community of Seveso, near Milan, was hit by a cloud of poisonous dioxin which had escaped accidentally from the nearby ICMEESA factory. Today, nine months later, the local population, facing an unknown future, lives in fear, anger and resentment.

Nothing is being done for them, they say, and protesting crowd, several hundred strong, chanting "we are not circus animals, invaded the Town Hall this week and prevented a debate from being televised by a foreign television channel."

"They talk a lot abroad about Seveso but they do nothing for us here," explained the demonstrators, many of whom have found "temporary" accommodation in local inns and hotels.

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And it appears to be spreading. A report this week from Zurich showed dangerous levels of dioxin in soil samples from the Cesano Maderno re-

# European Space Agency does some hard thinking to decide fate of disappointing scientific satellite

PARIS, April 21 (AFP). — Plans were being weighed here today to salvage the mission of the European scientific satellite GEOS, which failed to attain its planned orbit after launching yesterday.

A spokesman for the European Space Agency (ESA) said there was no danger to the satellite in its current or-

bit, with an apogee only one-third as high as scheduled.

But the failure to reach an initial altitude of 36,000 kms. meant that GEOS would never become the first geo-stationary probe destined solely for scientific research.

The first part of the launch went off according to plan at Cape Canaveral, Florida, but there were problems with the firing of the last stage of the launch rocket, a U.S.-Guilt Thor Delta.

Sources at the ESA indicated that proposals were being studied to modify the mission objectives of the satellite, rather than abort it, because GEOS itself is functioning perfectly.

The proposals will depend they said, on the prospects for boosting the altitude through the satellite's self-contained apogee engine.

The European Space Operations Centre in Darmstadt, West Germany, plus the space technology unit in Noordwijk, Holland, were plotting potential orbits through computer print-outs.

A decision on what to do about the satellite was expected next week, perhaps Tuesday, from the eight-member ESA which built GEOS to study electrical fields around the earth and the flow of particles from the sun.

GEOS, with a weight of 572 kgs, was built by the ESA for Belgium, Britain, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and West Germany.

The 10-nation consortium chose the British Aircraft Corporation as its principal contractor for the programme, which cost \$132 million.

# Swiss academy allows "passive euthanasia"

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, April 21 (AFP). — The Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences has approved of "passive euthanasia".

Doctors have been advised they could let incurable patients die if prolonging their lives would prolong their suffering unreasonably, if a patient in a coma had no hope of regaining consciousness or if life-prolonging treatment was "an unbearable burden on the patient and those around him."

But recommendations published by the academy yesterday warned that "active euthanasia" (mercy killing) was murder under Swiss law, even if requested by the victim.

Acts such as halting medication or intra-venous feeding or artificial respiration were defined as "passive euthanasia." The academy advised that a physician should respect a dying patient's wishes if the latter was capable of discernment. His relatives should be consulted but the final decision "is up to the physician."

# Eritrean guerrillas set 2 oil storage tanks on fire

ADDIS ABABA, April 21 (R). — Secessionist guerrillas in Ethiopia's northern Province of Eritrea have set fire to two oil storage tanks at the Red Sea Port of Assab, Addis Ababa Radio said today.

Three million litres of oil had been split and lost in the blaze, the radio reported.

The Eritrean Port of Assab is the site of Ethiopia's only oil refinery, and supplies are taken by military convoy along the 800 kms. to Addis Ababa.

Petrol is rationed in most parts of the country.

In a separate development, some 40 Ethiopian students demonstrated outside the Ethiopian Embassy in Moscow today in support of their government.

They pasted posters in Amharic on the building reading: "Down with Arab reaction" and "down with the stooge governments of the Americans."

The students said "Arab reaction" referred to Sudan, Egypt and Syria.

Ethiopia recently accused Sudan of backing guerrilla groups fighting the Addis Ababa government.

A busload of Soviet police stationed near the embassy during the demonstration did not intervene.

Greek police on alert to face protest marking 1967 coup d'etat

ATHENS, April 21 (R). — Greek police were placed on a state of alert today to prevent thousands of leftwing students staging an anti-American protest march to the United States Embassy here.

The embassy building was under heavy guard, and strong police detachments were posted near Athens University.

A mass rally was being held at the university called by an extreme leftwing imperialism

which imposed and supported" the military regime which ruled Greece from 1967 to 1974.

The group -- which calls itself the Revolutionary Communist Movement -- called on the students to stage a march on the embassy to demand the withdrawal of Americans from Greece.

The government said it would allow the rally in front of the university but warned that any attempt to march to the embassy would be prevented.

Armed policemen, supported by armoured cars, threw a cordon round the Korydallos Prison where leaders of the 1967 military coup, including former President George Papadopoulos, are serving long jail sentences.

Today was the anniversary of the coup, and journalists and printers in Athens staged a 10-minute stoppage to condemn it.

# Vorster defies world opinion on Namibia, Rhodesia, apartheid

CAPE TOWN, April 21 (AFP). — Premier John Vorster indicated yesterday that he was not prepared to bow to international pressure over Namibia, Rhodesia or South Africa's apartheid policy.

In a major foreign policy speech to the National Assembly here he said that British Foreign Secretary David Owen's new Rhodesian initiative should not "summarily be written off", but added that failure would not be the fault of white Rhodesians.

He stood firm on the question of Namibia (South West Africa), arguing in defiance of the five Western members of the United Nations Security Council that the recently-organised Turnhalle constitutional conference in Windhoek was a success.

The conference was boycotted by SWAPO (South West African People's Organisation) which is recognised by the United Nations as the true representative of Namibia's people.

But he did not refer to talks he is due to hold on Friday with 50 members of the committee of the constitutional conference, organised by South Africa to decide Namibia's future.

Reported here have said that the meeting is designed to make the Turnhalle conference more palatable to Western powers.

See Vorster will discuss Namibia again -- p. 2

Mr. Vorster also warned against attacks of the "Zaire or Rhodesia type," rather than a direct attack from the Soviet Union.

Referring to the rebellion in Zaire's Shaba Province, Mr. Vorster quoted the late Chinese Communist Party Chairman Mao Tse-tung as saying "the who controls Zaire controls Africa."

He expressed concern in the event of Zaire's friends or Western powers failing to provide South Africa with enough aid to thwart the Soviet Union's "grand strategy" of "spreading its sphere of influence in Africa."

He went on: "South Africa has made the best preparation possible out only in getting the necessary weapons but also in stockpiling strategic materials."

# Czechs may tighten grip on dissidents

PRAGUE, April 21 (AFP). — Czechoslovak authorities are believed to be planning a tightening of repressive measures against Charter 77 signatories and political dissidents through the introduction of new laws.

Recent press comments and speeches indicate new repressive measures are in the offing observers said.

The Attorney General of the Czech Republic, Jaroslav Krupauer, yesterday announced that his department was planning "to create an implacable atmosphere against delinquency in all fields of social life, and to reinforce repression against habitual criminals, parasites and criminal elements."

See Czech handling of dissidents -- p. 2

The announcement came at the same time that authorities were officially claiming a major decrease in criminality throughout the country.

Czechoslovak authorities are reported to be embarrassed by the Charter 77 signatories' claim that they are acting strictly within their country's constitution, which recognises the right of petition. New legal measures to cope with this problem are, therefore, believed necessary.

# WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

\* Dacca, April 21 (R). — President Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem of Bangladesh resigned today because of ill health and named the chief martial law administrator, Maj. Gen. Ziaur Rahman, to succeed him. President Sayem, 66, announced his decision in a proclamation. Under Bangladesh's constitution, which was amended in November 1975, the outgoing head of state has the right to nominate his successor.

\* PARIS, April 21 (R). — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri will have political and economic talks with President Valery Giscard d'Estaing during an official visit to Paris from May 16 to 18, presidential officials said today. The two leaders, who last met when President Numeiri paid the first visit by a Sudanese head of state to France last July, are expected to have several rounds of talks, they said. The full programme of the three-day visit will be published later.

\* CAIRO, April 21 (R). — The Egyptian authorities are banning Libyans in Egypt from returning to their country, a spokesman at the Libyan Diplomatic Mission (Embassy) said here today. The spokesman, Mr. Nouri Al Hamidi, said 40 Libyans were prevented from flying home yesterday. He said they were told at the airport that the decision to ban their departure came from "high authorities." There was no immediate Egyptian comment on the Libyan charge.

\* LONDON, April 21 (R). — British Foreign Secretary David Owen, will attend a Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO) ministerial council session in Tehran on May 14 and 15, British officials said today. The CENTO alliance was formed for the defence of the "northern tier" countries of the Middle East. Its full members are Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and Britain, but in recent years it has been mainly dealing with regional economic development and communications matters. Mr. Cyrus Vance, the U.S. Secretary of State, will also be attending the Tehran meeting soon after taking part, along with Dr. Owen, in a NATO ministerial council meeting in London on May 10 and 11.

\* LONDON, April 21 (AFP). — Queen Elizabeth was privately celebrating her 51st birthday today at Windsor Palace west of London. All members of the royal family were to attend a dinner there tonight along with close friends and relatives, a spokesman at Buckingham palace said. An official celebration of her birthday would be held next June 6, the spokesman said.

\* WASHINGTON, April 21 (AFP). — United Auto Workers' leader Leonard Woodcock, who headed a successful mission to Vietnam last month seeking the return of American war dead, will head the U.S. liaison bureau in Peking, the Washington Post reported yesterday.

